Thursday of Epiphany 2  
21 January 2021  

On Thursdays this Lent Term, I will be making the prayer and readings for the day available online, with some intercessions.

Please let me know if there is anything you would like included in the Sunday prayers of our broadcast service.

The earliest surviving depiction of Jesus healing, from third century Syria

**COLLECT**

Almighty God,  
in Christ you make all things new:  
transform the poverty of our nature  
by the riches of your grace,  
and in the renewal of our lives  
make known your heavenly glory;  
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

**READING**  
Hebrews 7.25-8.6

Christ is able for all time to save those who approach God through him, since he always lives to make intercession for them. For it was fitting that we should have such a high priest, holy, blameless, undefiled, separated from sinners, and exalted above the heavens.

Unlike the other high priests, he has no need to offer sacrifices day after day, first for his own sins, and then for those of the people; this he did once for all when he offered himself. For the law appoints as high priests those who are subject to weakness, but the word of the oath, which came later than the law, appoints a Son who has been made perfect forever. Now the main point in what we are saying is this: we have such a high priest, one who is seated at the right hand of the throne of the Majesty in the heavens, a minister in the sanctuary and the true tent that the Lord, and not any mortal, has set up. For every high priest is appointed to offer gifts and sacrifices; hence it is necessary for this priest also to have something to offer. Now if he were on earth, he would not be a priest at all, since there are priests who offer gifts according to the law.

They offer worship in a sanctuary that is a sketch and shadow of the heavenly one; for Moses, when he was about to erect the tent, was warned, “See that you make everything according to the pattern that was shown you on the mountain.” But Jesus has now obtained a more excellent ministry, and to that degree he is the mediator of a better covenant, which has been enacted through better promises.
Jesus departed with his disciples to the sea, and a great multitude from Galilee followed him; hearing all that he was doing, they came to him in great numbers from Judea, Jerusalem, Idumea, beyond the Jordan, and the region around Tyre and Sidon.

He told his disciples to have a boat ready for him because of the crowd, so that they would not crush him; for he had cured many, so that all who had diseases pressed upon him to touch him. Whenever the unclean spirits saw him, they fell down before him and shouted, “You are the Son of God!”

But he sternly ordered them not to make him known.

INTERCESSIONS

Jesus calls us out of darkness into his marvellous light. Let us pray for grace, to live life as he calls us to.

Lord Jesus, eternal Word, proclaimed as Christ by John hear us as we pray for all who proclaim your word:

Lord Jesus, you baptize with the Spirit and with fire, strengthen us to withstand the testing of our faith:

Lord Jesus, you bring forgiveness to all who repent, teach your Church to depend only on your grace:

Lord Jesus, beloved Son of the Father, anoint us with the gifts of your Holy Spirit, and heal us from every hurt and pain:

Lord Jesus, bringer of hope, share with all the faithful the riches of eternal life:

God our Father, you have called us to be a light to the world, shining in dark places. Let our worship be our witness to you, and our witness be upheld in lives lived for others, not for self.

Merciful Father, accept these prayers for the sake of your Son, Our Saviour Jesus Christ. Amen.